

Contour Orchard and Other Fruit Area

PRACTICE INTRODUCTION

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service - practice code 331



DEFINITION

Contour orchard and other fruit area is the practice of planting orchards, vineyards, or small fruit so that all cultural operations are done on the contour.

PRACTICE INFORMATION

This practice is used on sloping land to conserve and protect soil, water, and related natural resources. Contouring orchards and vineyards is especially helpful in fields where

permanent cover has not been established between the rows of plants. Contouring decreases surface runoff and increases infiltration of moisture. The practice also benefits equipment operation, improves aesthetics, and reduces pollution hazards.

Additional information including design criteria and specifications are in the local NRCS Field Office Technical Guide.